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Divinyls: Live Jailhouse Rock

By: Tommy Bellwether

Divinyls Live Jailhouse Rock (Umbrella)

Christine Amphlett (what a great surname for a rock 'n' roller!) is a hardcore genuine rock 'n' roll person.

I have to imagine that my enhanced reaction to her presence on stage must be akin to what some women used to feel about a young Morrison or Plant. She oozes sensuality, power and charisma. She is absolutely fearless on stage. And guitarist Mark McEntee is an unsung hero of the electric guitar. His playing has always been edgy, but melodic, unrestrained, but somehow in service of the song, wild, and always threatening to run away from him.

With a crackerjack band including Americans Charlie Drayton and Jerome Smith, "Live Jailhouse Rock" this is a great record of the Divinyls playing inventive and melodic rock 'n' roll with one of the most "keeping it real" singers out there. Lots of truly outstanding tracks and way too many to recommend, but it has to be said that Christine Amphlett is nobody's fool. This woman is just lethal on stage. Her voice is a little frayed, and the audio of the DVD could be stronger, but if you are looking for a performance that is 100-percent genuine and dangerous.

The Divinyls are a great band at the height of its powers. I promise you this much, you will not be disappointed.

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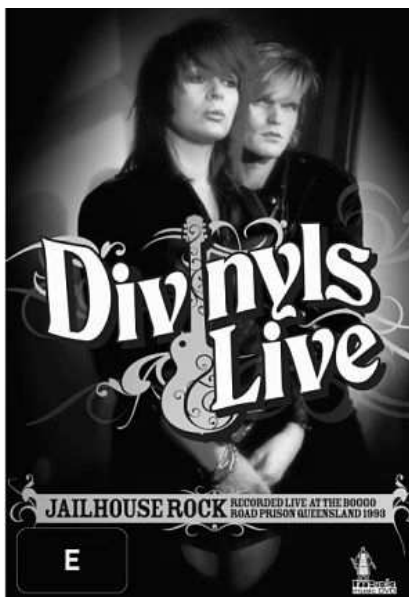
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